

## FARMS AND HOMES.

### WHAT CENSUS STATISTICS SHOW CONCERNING THEM.

Of the 12,600,152 Families in the United States 47.80 Per Cent. Own Their Own Farms and Homes, While 52.20 Per Cent Pay Rent.

#### Some Interesting Figures.

THE final and complete statistics concerning farms, homes and mortgages in the United States have been issued from the census office, and offer a most interesting subject of study. There are 12,600,152 families in the United States. Of these 4,787,179 occupy farms and 7,812,973 occupy homes in cities, towns and villages. Of the total 47.80 per cent. own their farms and homes and 52.20 per cent. pay rent. Of the farms or homes 72.03 per cent. are entirely free from incumbrance and 27.97 only of every 100 rest under mortgages. These mortgages represent but 37.50 per cent. of the value of the property, and the average rate of interest paid upon them is 6.65 per cent. per annum. The average value of the incumbered farms or homes is \$3,352, the average amount of the mortgage is \$1,257, and the average interest charge is \$73.59. It is shown also that the greater portion of the mortgages represent deferred payments of purchase money. The remainder represents permanent improvements, farm machinery, stock and other investments that add to the value of the property. Very few mortgages are the result of misfortune or improvidence.

In the new States of the West are found the largest percentage of people who own the farms or homes they occupy, and the smallest number are found in the South. In Illinois the average of ownership is nearly 2 per cent. above the average for the entire country—viz., 49.96 per cent. of the population own and 50.04 per cent. rent. In Indiana the condition of the people is somewhat better, the percentage of ownership being 57.52. In Wisconsin it is still better, where the percentage of ownership is 68.55; in Michigan, 63.12; in Iowa, 62.18, and in Minnesota, 64.94. The highest percentages of ownership are found in Oklahoma, 86.89; North Dakota, 78.16; South Dakota, 75.28, and Idaho, 71.76. The lowest percentages of ownership are found in Louisiana, 29.56; Alabama, 34.64; Delaware, 37.08; Georgia, 31.43; Rhode Island, 29.62, and South Carolina, 28.77.

Many Farms in Ohio. The statistics show that Ohio has the largest number of farms of any State in the Union, 256,264; Illinois comes second, 252,953; then Missouri, 250,832; Texas, 248,782; New York, 226,632; Pennsylvania, 211,472; Iowa, 205,435; Indiana, 205,331. No other State has more than 200,000. The percentage of ownership in farms is largest in the North and West, as is the percentage of homes also. Without including Oklahoma, where the conditions were scarcely settled enough when the census was taken to make a fair comparison, Maine stands first as a free-farm State. There 92 out of every 100 of the farmers own the places on which they live. Utah is second, with a percentage of 90.67, and the next highest States come in the following order:

| State.        | Per cent. | State.        | Per cent. |
|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| North Dakota. | 78.16     | Massachusetts | 54.94     |
| N. Hampshire. | 59.08     | Nevada        | 63.88     |
| Idaho.        | 71.76     | South Dakota. | 75.28     |
| New Mexico.   | 88.18     | Vermont       | 83.38     |
| Wisconsin.    | 68.55     | Michigan      | 63.12     |
| Montana.      | 86.90     | Connecticut   | 52.32     |
| Minnesota.    | 64.94     | Washington    | 61.59     |

In the matter of mortgages, however, the percentage is much smaller in the Southern States than it is in the North and West. In fact, the difference is so great as to be phenomenal. As has been stated above, 27.97 per cent. of the farms and homes in the United States are mortgaged. That is the average for the whole country, but in Georgia the percentage is only 3.18, in Tennessee 3.87, in Florida 3.63, in Alabama 3.98, in Louisiana 3.94, and in the other Southern States it is proportionately small. The highest percentage of mortgages is found in South Dakota, where only fifty-one out of every one hundred people own their farms or houses without incumbrance. Kansas and Nebraska come very close to the maximum, and, strange to say, North Dakota and New Jersey have almost the same percentage, the former showing 45.42 per cent. of incumbered farms and homes and the latter 45.84. In Illinois 32.68 per cent. of the farms and homes carry mortgages, in Indiana 29.72, in Iowa 42.40, in Michigan 40.99, in Minnesota 42.47 and in Wisconsin 37.96. It is an interesting fact that Utah has the smallest percentage of mortgaged farms and homes of any Northern State, 92.67 per cent. of the owners there being absolutely without incumbrance. In Washington, also, the proportion is very small compared with other new States, the percentage of mortgages being 23.45—less than in Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio or any other of the Eastern States.

Mississippi Mortgage Ridden. In Mississippi the farmers suffer more from the mortgage evil than in any other State, and only 37 per cent. of their homes are free. South Carolina comes next with 23.51 per cent. Georgia, 41.90; Alabama, 43.15; Louisiana, 44.99, and Delaware, 60.58. In Illinois 63 out of every 100 farmers own their homes, in Indiana 70.75 and Iowa 70.43. The lowest rate of farm mortgages is found in the following States:

| State.      | Per cent. | State.         | Per cent. |
|-------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| Florida.    | 2.95      | Louisiana      | 3.98      |
| New Mexico. | 2.90      | Kentucky       | 4.06      |
| Virginia.   | 3.16      | Dist. Columbia | 4.13      |
| Tennessee.  | 3.21      | Arkansas       | 4.18      |
| Georgia.    | 3.38      | Alabama        | 4.35      |

The highest rate of farm mortgages is found in Kansas—55.48. Iowa stands second, with 53.20 per cent., and the other highest States in the following order: South Dakota, 52.89; Nebraska, 51.90; North Dakota, 49.35; New Jersey, 48.91; Michigan, 48.67; Minnesota, 48.99; Vermont, 44.35; New York, 44.17.

Wisconsin, 42.85. Speaking of farms alone, Utah also stands the highest in regard to mortgages of any of the Northern States, only 5.5 per cent. of her farms being incumbered. The percentage in Wyoming is 13.05, in Montana 15.48, Idaho 16.32, Oregon 23.33, Colorado 25.48 and Washington 26.76.

Nearly 37 per cent. of the farms in Illinois are mortgaged. In Indiana the farmers are in a little better condition, the percentage being 33.10, and in Ohio they are a little better still, the percentage being 28.90. It is shown, however, that 76.51 per cent. of the mortgages upon farms in the United States represent deferred payments of purchase money, and 85.30 per cent. purchase money and permanent improvements. The remainder, as has already been stated, represent farm machinery, stock and other articles that add to the value of the property and make its cultivation more profitable. In Illinois 74.43 per cent. of the mortgages represent deferred payments of purchase money; in Indiana, 69.97; Iowa, 69.49; Michigan, 70.20; Nebraska, 47.02; North Dakota, 36.29; Ohio, 69.58; Oregon, 54.84; South Dakota, 25.47; Washington, 46.51; Wisconsin, 69.30. The percentage of mortgages due to all other objects than deferred payments of purchase money, improvements, machinery, stock and other articles of permanent value is only 2.80 in the entire United States. The highest rate is found in the Southern States, where the planters are in the habit of securing advances upon their crops, which often are not sufficient to meet them, and then mortgage lapses over upon the property. In Alabama the percentage of such farms is 6.09, in Georgia 4.09, in Louisiana 6.12, in South Carolina 6.52, in Virginia 15.58.

Of the mortgage farms and homes in the United States 19.74 per cent. are worth less than \$1,000, 16.19 per cent. are worth between \$1,000 and \$2,500, 25.25 per cent. are worth between \$2,500 and \$5,000, 13.24 per cent. between \$5,000 and \$10,000, 15.46 per cent. are worth \$10,000 and over and 10.30 worth \$25,000 and over.

### OUR MILITARY STRENGTH.

Uncle Sam Could Put an Army of 9,000,000 in the Field.

Secretary Lamont recently sent to the House an abstract of the military force of the United States for the year 1894, compiled from the latest returns received by the Adjutant General of the army. The statement shows the organized strength by States, gives the number of commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates and the number of men available for military duty unorganized. A grand aggregate shows 9,505 commissioned officers, 29,410 non-commissioned officers, 4,047 musicians, 107,394 privates, and places the number of men available for military duty unorganized at 9,582,806.

Given by States, the aggregate organized strength (commissioned and non-commissioned) and unorganized men available is as follows:

| States.        | Organized. | Available. |
|----------------|------------|------------|
| Alabama        | 2,982      | 165,000    |
| Arkansas       | 1,079      | 205,000    |
| California     | 4,948      | 188,072    |
| Colorado       | 1,621      | 85,000     |
| Connecticut    | 2,842      | 98,779     |
| Delaware       | 421        | 28,080     |
| Florida        | 1,011      | 60,714     |
| Georgia        | 4,194      | 264,021    |
| Idaho          | 394        | 13,932     |
| Illinois       | 5,313      | 708,000    |
| Indiana        | 2,581      | 481,192    |
| Iowa           | 2,478      | 269,510    |
| Kansas         | 1,724      | 100,000    |
| Kentucky       | 1,471      | 405,000    |
| Louisiana      | 1,249      | 138,439    |
| Maine          | 1,241      | 98,978     |
| Maryland       | 1,967      | 160,000    |
| Massachusetts  | 6,006      | 389,529    |
| Michigan       | 2,878      | 260,000    |
| Minnesota      | 1,900      | 100,000    |
| Mississippi    | 1,700      | 233,480    |
| Missouri       | 2,006      | 380,000    |
| Montana        | 517        | 25,000     |
| Nebraska       | 1,248      | 132,000    |
| Nevada         | 549        | 62,418     |
| New Hampshire  | 1,337      | 55,000     |
| New Jersey     | 3,970      | 284,887    |
| New York       | 12,846     | 750,000    |
| North Carolina | 1,659      | 240,000    |
| North Dakota   | 545        | 50,000     |
| Ohio           | 6,957      | 645,000    |
| Oregon         | 1,565      | 46,365     |
| Pennsylvania   | 8,932      | 896,230    |
| Rhode Island   | 1,372      | 73,945     |
| South Carolina | 4,674      | 181,000    |
| South Dakota   | 799        | 35,000     |
| Tennessee      | 3,369      | 169,000    |
| Texas          | 3,000      | 300,000    |
| Vermont        | 787        | 44,164     |
| Virginia       | 3,167      | 220,000    |
| West Virginia  | 838        | 122,475    |
| Washington     | 1,530      | 85,000     |
| Wisconsin      | 2,571      | 308,717    |
| Arizona        | 503        | 8,000      |
| Wyoming        | 503        | 7,000      |
| New Mexico     | 470        | 25,000     |
| Oklahoma       | 130        | 10,000     |
| Utah           | 1,080      | 25,000     |

### THE SPOILS OF WAR.

A Summary of the Conflict Between China and Japan.

According to Japanese accounts which are complete up to Dec. 31 last, 13 engagements were fought—14 by land, 2 by sea—in all of which the Mikado's warriors were the victors.

The Japanese lost 420 killed and 1,712 wounded; the Chinese lost 6,676 killed and 9,696 wounded. The report stated that all the enemy's wounded were treated in Japanese hospitals, and that the dead were buried. The Japanese took 2,164 prisoners, most of these being held in the military stations of Japan.

The plunder taken includes 670 Krupp guns, with 2,601,741 rounds of ammunition; 7,465 rifles, with 77,458,785 rounds of ammunition; 300 horses, 3,326 tents, 477 stands of colors, gold and silver valued at about \$1,000,000 and an enormous amount of camp equipment, the whole footing up about \$7,312,000. The value of the buildings and forts at Port Arthur is estimated at not less than \$70,000,000. Two gunboats and a steel cruiser have been seized, one gunboat and one steel cruiser have been burned, one ironclad and three steel cruisers have been sunk, besides 21 steam launches, junks and sailing vessels.

The Aleutian Islands were so called from the River Olutua, in Kam-shatka. The people living at the mouth of this stream were called Alutorsky, and a modification of the name was given to the islands.

Among her most favorite treasures and reminiscences of the past the Queen keeps a brooch which belonged originally to Robert Bruce, of Scotland.

## CONGRESS OF WOMEN.

### A SIGNIFICANT GATHERING IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL.

Women from All Spheres, of All Religions and with All Beliefs Assembled in Thousands in a Great Convention—Its Objects and Aims.

#### Agree on but One Point.

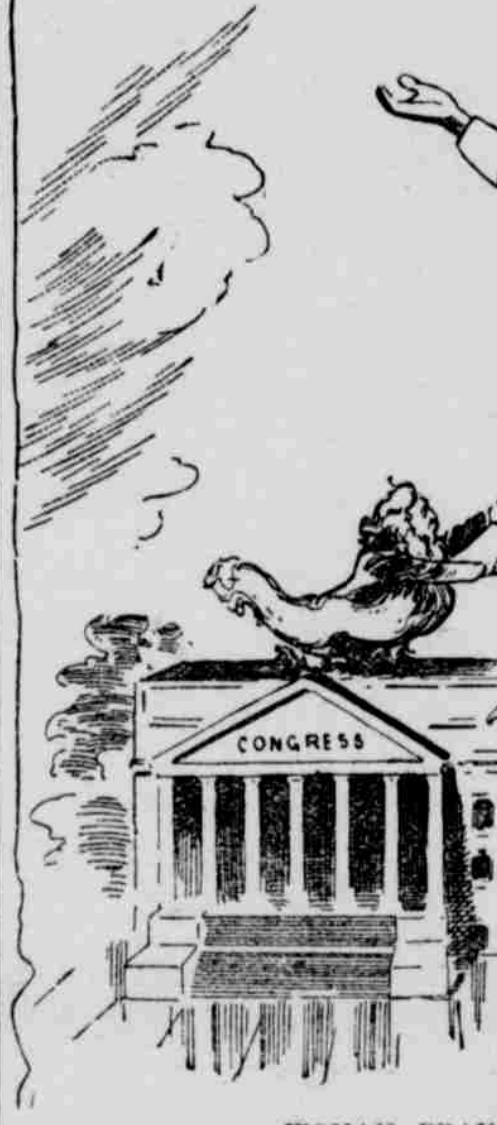
A national government of, for and by the women of the United States—a Senate, a House of Representatives, a President and possibly a cabinet—such is the scope of the plan of several millions of women of America, who sent representatives to the second triennial convention of the National Council of Women of America, which commenced its session in Washington last week. This government is to be organized, not to legislate, but to deliberate upon national matters, taking its pointers from Congress and hoping to indirectly influence that body in its legislation. This woman's government purposes also to be a school for women against the time when they shall take a



FRANCES E. WILLARD, President.

hand with men in the nation's real business; to illustrate to womankind the true meaning of national deliberation, legislation and administration.

To this the greatest gathering of women



WOMAN BRAVES THE CONGRESSIONAL LIONS IN THEIR DENS.

which the world has ever seen have come representatives from every walk of life, from every religion and every belief, and every part of the country. There are Protestants and Catholics, Jews and Gentiles, Mormons and Agnostics, Virgilites and anti-Virgilites. There are Republicans, Democrats, Populists, Socialists, Tillamites, Free Silverites, Farmers' Alliancers, Grangers, Single-Taxers, Nationalists and Prohibitionists. Scarcely any two delegates agree perfectly excepting upon one point, and that is the elevation and amelioration of woman-kind.

Nearly fifty different societies are represented, including those of a national scope, such as the National Women's Christian Temperance Union, and those which are more of a local character. Seventeen of the societies thus represented have an aggregate membership of nearly 5,000,000, and the total representation is probably little under 10,000,000. The organization of a woman's government, patterned after the national government of the United States, is one of the questions which will come up before this session of the National Council, which will continue two weeks. It will simply be a rearrangement of the National Council as it is at



FRANCES E. BAGLEY, Vice President.

present. Its objects are set forth as follows: "We, women of the United States,

sincerely believing that the best good of our homes and nation will be advanced by our own greater unity of thought, sympathy and purpose, and that an organized movement of women will best conserve the highest good of the family and the state, do hereby band ourselves together



FRANCES E. WILLARD.

in a confederation of workers committed to the overthrow of all forms of ignorance and injustice, and to the application of the golden rule to society, custom and law." The President of the National Council is the same Mrs. May Wright Sewall who was the moving spirit of the Women's Congress at the World's Fair, assisted by the other officers of the council. Mrs. Frances E. Bagley, the vice-president, is a rich and prominent society leader of Detroit. Mrs. Isabella Charles Davis, the recording secretary, is the best-known of the council's officers, for she is the business manager and one of the founders of the International Order of the King's Daughters and Sons, which has a strength of more than 350,000. The treasurer of the council is Lillian M. N. Stevens, of Stroudwater, Me., and has become prominent through her work for the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. One of the most interesting of the council's officers is Mrs. Rachel Foster Avery, the corresponding secretary. She had a prominent part in the organization of the Women's Congress at the World's Fair, and in many other ways her name has become well known.

Behind the Board of Officers come the four great standing committees, who are supposed to represent the four most important fields of modern feminine thought. The first is on dress, of which Frances E. Russell, of St. Paul, Minn., is chairman, and which also includes the New York



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favorite, Anna Jenness Miller. The second committee is on equal pay for equal work, and consists of three members, of whom Mrs. Leland Stanford and Mary Desha are the best known. The Committee on Divorce Reform consists of three



LADY HENRY SOMERSET.

members, all of whom are well known. They are Mrs. Ellen Batelle Dietrich, Mary A. Livermore and Fannie B. Ames. The Committee on Patriotic Instruction is composed of six members, of whom Eliza D. Keith, better known as "Di Vernon," a California poet and litterateur; Frances E. Willard, Mrs. Isabella C. Davis and Mrs. Caroline E. Merrick are very widely known.

The National Council, while the largest of all the national organizations of women of the country, is one of the newest. It is logically the result rather than the outgrowth of the National Suffrage Association and the American Association for the Advancement of Women. In 1888 and 1889, they began an agitation looking toward a new organization, built upon a much broader basis. This culminated in the first session of the body, which took place in 1891, which was a very remarkable success. The second triennial should have been held in 1894, but as nearly all the members had set in Chicago at the World's Fair, and especially at the World's Congress, and had transacted much of the business which usually comes before the council, they deemed it advisable to postpone the second triennial to the present year, and in the meantime

to extend the ramifications of the central body.

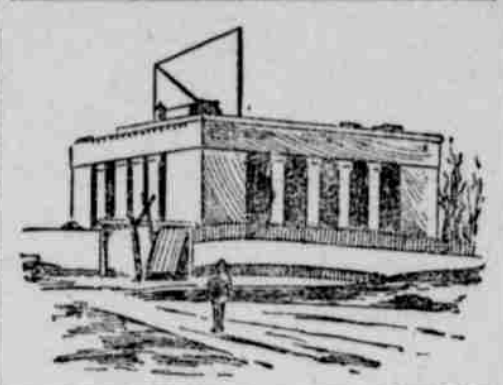
Many women of national and even international reputation are in attendance. Some of them are the Countess of Aberdeen, Lady Henry Somerset, Mrs. Russell Sage, Miss Susan B. Anthony, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Grannis, well known in connection with the social purity crusade in New York city; Dr. Jennie de la M. Lozier, the New York physician; Mrs. Laura C. Bullard, of Brooklyn, the millionaire; the female minister of the gospel, Rev. Anna Shaw; Miss Frances E. Willard, Mrs. French Sheldon, the African explorer, and Mme. Albert, the Debarist. Organizations of women in Germany, France, England, Canada and elsewhere are also present.

"The greatest value of the council," says President Sewall, "is in bringing together women whose lives are in different avenues and whose interests are in different lines of work."

#### HIS TOMB DESERTED.

Work on the Grant Monument Has Been Stopped for the Winter.

The work of building the Grant monument in New York has been stopped for the winter, and the unfinished tomb looks as dreary and deserted as the temporary mausoleum near by. The cold, gray pile is covered with snow, and it is impossible to continue setting the great blocks of granite until the spring weather again drives the frost from the ground. It



PRESENT CONDITION OF THE MONUMENT.

was intended to put in place the double row of detached columns in front and to complete the porch before the work was suspended, but the cold weather came earlier than was expected and the men were laid off before this was done. The monument, however, has progressed well and is much further on toward completion than is generally supposed.

The foundations, which are sunk down twenty-seven feet in the ground, have been finished, and the main structure has



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been built up forty-five feet from the ground. The completed dome, however, will rise 105 feet above the ground. It will be seen, therefore, that there is a good deal yet to be done. When work was suspended for the winter the first cornice had been reached and a few of the blocks on the next course of granite were laid. The square part of the monument will rise twenty-seven feet above the first cornice, before the circular part of the structure begins. All of the twelve attached columns that ornament the sides and back of the lower part have been put in place, and most of the ten detached pillars which form the colonnade in front of the porch are also set.

#### FOR SCHOFIELD'S BENEFIT.

Bill Reviving the Grade of Lieutenant General Has Been Signed.

The bill passed by Congress for the benefit of Gen. Schofield and which revives the grade of lieutenant-general of the army, has been signed by President Cleveland. General Schofield is now 64 years of age. He graduated from West Point with Sheridan, McPherson and others who afterward distinguished themselves in the civil war. He served two years as assistant professor of natural philosophy at West Point and then left the army and became professor of physics at Washington University, St. Louis. With the beginning of the civil war, however, he rejoined his old regiment and in 1861 was made its captain. A brave and brilliant soldier, he participated in many engagements, was rapidly promoted, and in 1864 was assigned to the command of the Army of the Ohio. In 1868 he was brevetted major-general United States Army, for meritorious services in the battle of Franklin, Tenn., in 1876 appointed superintendent military academy, West Point, and August 24, 1888, assigned to the command of the army of the United States. Gen. Schofield was married in 1891 to Miss Georgia Kilbourne, of Keokuk, Iowa.

The Standard Oil Company is drilling for oil in Kentucky. If it will work as near as possible to distilleries it will find plenty of the illuminating fluid for which Kentucky is famous throughout the continent.

## DOINGS AT LANSING.

### WORK OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE.

An Impartial Record of the Work Accomplished by Those Who Make Our Laws—How the Time Has Been Occupied During the Past Week.

#### The Law-Makers.

The famous Detroit health board bill passed the House Tuesday and was given immediate effect. The measure legislates the present Board of Health from office and provides for a new board appointed by the Governor. The most important bills introduced were: Increasing the tax on liquors; providing a bounty of \$100 each to surviving veterans of the late war; abolishing the present State Board of Health and creating a new one, in which the secretary of the board is prohibited from being a member; providing for the appointment of an Assistant Attorney General at a salary of \$2,000 per year; for the township unit school system; providing a one-fifteenth mill tax for the support of State Normal School; abolishing the medical department at the State University; appropriating \$2,000 for the holding of dairymen's State institutes; providing a bounty of 2 cents per pound on beet sugar; establishing a State hospital for consumptives; providing a State Board of Medical Examiners.

The Legislature adjourned Wednesday night until Monday, out of respect to the memory of George Washington! Both houses broke the record for the introduction of bills, a total of over 1,600 having been presented in both houses. The bill incorporating the villages of the State was signed by the Governor. Two other bills for the incorporation of cities are in the hands of the committee and others are being prepared. Legislative sessions may be shortened fully one-half by the passage of these bills. Among the bills introduced was one making an appropriation of \$60,000 for a hospital for consumptives; another proposes to appropriate \$100,000 for a Grand Army memorial hall, and another appropriates \$5,000 annually for the support of the State Fair Society. The Senate passed the bill requiring a registration of all voters previous to the coming April election.

#### HE CERTAINLY EARNS ONE.

But This Best Man Came Near Decamping with All the Dec.

The best man had performed his multifarious duties up to a certain point to his own satisfaction and that of the bridegroom. He had spent the forenoon with that bewildered personage, had given the ushers their final instructions, had presented a picture of calm and unflinching stoicism to the bridal party as it moved up the aisle, had quelled the bridegroom's momentary mad impulse to flight from the altar steps by a glance, had produced the ring at exactly the right instant and had led the maid of honor away with distinguished grace. He was congratulating himself out in the vestry on the way in which he had managed, when one of the ushers approached him.

"See here, d'ye know what you've done?" demanded the youth.

"No," gasped the astonished best man. "What is it?"

"You've marched off with the clergyman's fee, the organist's fee and the sexton's fee all in your pocket," replied the usher, rolling out the words with great relish.

And as the discomfited man rushed back to rectify his slight mistake, he was heard to mutter that there should be a best man's fee also.

#### Substitute for the Forge.

A substitute for the ordinary forge, as proposed by George D. Burton of Boston, consists of a method of heating by plunging the metal into a vessel of water and passing a strong current of electricity through it, the apparatus comprising a wooden bucket containing a large sheet of lead, which forms the positive pole, and an iron bar laid across the bucket, forming the negative pole. The metal to be heated is held in the tongs, which are rested on this iron cross piece and dipped into the liquid as desired, thus avoiding all flexible connections with the tongs. Two ordinary nails held in the tongs and dipped in the liquid are found to be heated to a welding heat in a few seconds, so as afterwards to be welded on an anvil with a few blows of the hammer, or they may be welded by simply allowing them to fuse together. The solution which has been found best adapted to this purpose is a solution of ten parts carbonate of soda and one of borax dissolved in water until the specific gravity at seventy degrees is 1.150.

#### Ten Thousand for a Misplaced Kiss.

A peculiar suit has been instituted at Bulla, Ala. Mrs. Sue Robbins was a passenger on the Louisville train the other day; so were Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Lemmons, a young couple just married. The train was passing through a tunnel and Mr. Lemmons, who had left his wife's seat, just behind Mrs. Robbins, returned to it, as he thought in the darkness, and proceeded to kiss his newly wedded bride. About this time the train emerged from the tunnel and disclosed that his supposed bride was Mrs. Robbins, who is a young widow. She has sued for \$10,000 damages for the mistake, and will not admit the act was not intentional. —Baltimore American.

#### Enough.

The 1893 wine product of the State of California was equal to a little more than one quart for each man, woman and child in the United States.

Bernadotte, one of Napoleon's marshals, who afterwards became King of Sweden, was educated in the office of a country notary, and spent his time in copying legal papers.

Nicaragua and New York have the same area, 49,000 square miles.